GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:471
ANSWERED ON:20.02.2003
BUDGETARY SUPPORT TO RAILWAYS
JAYABEN B. THAKKAR

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the fact that the budgetary support to the Railway Ministry has reduced coupled with an increasing of burden during the last few Five Year Plans as per the status report on Indian Railways;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether due to the increase in liabilities, the new projects could not be taken up and even the old ones could not be completed as per the schedule; and

(d) if so, the Government's view point in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA)

(a) to (d): A Statement is attached.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 471 BY SHRIMATI JAYABEN THAKKAR TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 20.02.2003 REGARDING BUDGETARY SUPPORT TO RAILWAYS

(a) to (d): While Budgetary Support to the Railways had reduced from a level of 75% of the total Plan Size in the Fifth Five Year Plan to 23% in the Eighth Five Year Plan, there has been an increase in the percentage of Budgetary Support to 34% (inclusive of contribution to the Special Railway Safety Fund) in the Ninth Five Year Plan.

The Ministry of Railways projects its corresponding requirement of Budgetary Support both at the time of finalisation of Five Year Plans and the Annual Plans. The allocation of Budgetary Support is decided on an annual basis by the Planning Commission in consultation with the Ministry of Finance, taking into consideration the availability of resources and requirements projected by the Railways.

Cost sharing arrangements with some State Govts. have been entered into for certain projects. Cost of some projects undertaken on strategic consideration is now borne by the Ministry of Defence. Jammu & Kashmir National Project is now being funded from General Exchequer outside Railway Plan.